

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Madam Chairman, I want every Member of Congress to look at the chart that the opposition brought in. I want the chairman of the subcommittee to look at it. I want the Committee on National Security to look at it. We are talking about every country all over the world, and the National Security report came out and said the biggest weakness to America's national security is our own border.

Listen carefully. Increased availability of inexpensive cruise missiles and the capability to fabricate and introduce biotoxins and chemical agents into the United States at record levels, warheads housing nuclear/chemical/biological weapons proliferating, effective missile defenses needed.

But look at our borders. Although not seriously considered, coastal and border defense of the homeland is a challenge that needs attention. Infiltration of our borders by drug smugglers and contraband goods illustrates a dangerous problem.

Now let me say this. Only three out of 100 trucks. Where are the agents? I support the agents. This does not even deal with immigration. Terrorists finance their business with narcotics. Congress talks about a war on narcotics.

All we have is a war going on in Kosovo. We are building homes in Haiti and giving vaccinations to dogs in Haiti, and the damn border is wide open, and I am going to hear this. The committee would not even have had a debate on our border if it was not for this amendment.

Now, this amendment may not pass this time, but 90 percent of the American people are fed up with a Congress that does nothing and talks about a war on crime and a war on terrorism when we are ripe and wide open.

I want to say one last thing. I want some support in a conference. There is not enough anatomy in the other body to even consider these issues. This is the House of Representatives. Show some backbone.

I do not mandate these troops. The President must ask for them. But by God, if he gets them, the Trafficant law says they cannot violate posse comitatus. They must be trained. They must give notice to the governors, and it must be coordinated.

Now, that is the way it is. I expect the support of this House today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN PRO TEMPORE

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). The Chair will remind Members that the use of profanity in the Chamber is not permitted.

Mr. BUYER. Madam Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would say to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) that your passion is real. It is misdirected. It should not be the troops on the border, it

should be increasing Customs, INS and DEA.

Madam Chairman, I yield 45 seconds to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE).

Mr. KOLBE. Madam Chairman, I admire the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT), and as the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUYER) said, for his tenacity, but I disagree strongly with his proposal to militarize our border, to put a significant part of my congressional district under martial law.

He is not talking about martial law in Youngstown, Ohio. He is not talking about martial law in New York City. He wants to clear the streets of gangs and drug dealers. What about clearing them with military troops there in those cities as well?

He wants to use the military resources to help stop drugs at our borders and prevent terrorists. Guess what. It is happening. It is happening right now. Joint Task Force 6, located in El Paso, Texas, is doing that.

Here are some of the things that the military does now along the border. Army engineering groups are building roads and fences along the border so that we can patrol it. We have the National Guard unloading trucks at our crossing stations so they can be inspected for drugs. We have the Air Force operating our aerostats which provide radar coverage against drug-smuggling aircraft. It is Customs that should deal with this. It is Immigration and Border Patrol that should deal with this; it is not the military role to deal with this.

I urge my colleagues to defeat this amendment.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Chairman. I rise in strong opposition to the Trafficant amendment to place armed troops on the border. This great nation of ours is both a nation of immigrants and a nation of laws, not a nation against immigrants. This means that we have laws, but we also have fairness, we also have due process, and yes, we have a group of hardworking men and women who make up the U.S. Border Patrol. Rather than giving up and becoming a military police-state, let's continue to support our Border Patrol and do everything we can to improve the border patrol. I have joined with Congressman SYLVESTRE REYES to introduce H.R. 1881, the Border Patrol Recruitment and Retention Act of 1999. This legislation will provide incentives and support for recruiting and retaining border patrol agents. This legislation would increase the compensation for Border Patrol agents and allow the Border Patrol agency to recruit its own agents without relying on personnel offices of the INS.

The Border Patrol is not able to recruit enough agents to meet this authorizing level. Therefore, after speaking with the budget analysts at the INS, an additional \$3.7 million is needed to raise the starting salary level from GS-5 level to GS-7 level, which will be slightly over \$30,000 and comparable with the other federal law enforcement agencies.

Apparently Madam Chairman, the Border Patrol Agency loses a lot of its agents when they reach the GS-9 level, and that salary level is around \$33,000 because there is cur-

rently a ceiling on how much an agent can earn. We must do this every year Madam Chairman until FY 2001, which is the remaining authorizing years for Border Patrol agents as mandated by the 1996 law.

Let's not line up troops along the border. The military is not supposed to be used for such purposes. Let's beef up our nation's Border Patrol and pass H.R. 1881, the Border Patrol Recruitment and Retention Act of 1999.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT).

The question was taken; and the Chairman pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote, and pending that, I make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 200, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

SEQUENTIAL VOTES POSTPONED IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 200, proceedings will now resume on those amendments on which further proceedings were postponed in the following order: Amendment No. 15 offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUYER) and amendment No. 16 offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT).

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for the electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT NO. 15 OFFERED BY MR. BUYER

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. The pending business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUYER) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 425, noes 0, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 185]

AYES—425

Abercrombie	Barrett (WI)	Bliley
Ackerman	Bartlett	Blumenauer
Aderholt	Barton	Blunt
Allen	Bass	Boehlert
Andrews	Bateman	Boehner
Archer	Becerra	Bonilla
Armey	Bentsen	Bonior
Bachus	Bereuter	Borski
Baird	Berkley	Boswell
Baker	Berman	Boucher
Baldacci	Berry	Boyd
Baldwin	Biggert	Brady (PA)
Ballenger	Bilbray	Brady (TX)
Barcia	Bilirakis	Brown (FL)
Barr	Bishop	Brown (OH)
Barrett (NE)	Blagojevich	Bryant